WAR DEPARTMENT

WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION 6-2

G-2/9794-186

WASHINGTON

April 3, 1941.

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Lieutenant Colonel J. Edgar Hoover, Director, Federal Bueau of Investigation, U. S. Department of Justice, Washington, D. C.

Dear Colonel Hoover:

Inclosed herewith is a copy of a directive which I am transmitting to officers of the military intelligence concerned in the New York Area.

This directive received the approval of the committee at the intelligence conference on April 2, 1941, and was also approved at the same time by Commander Vincent Astor, the Area Controller of the New York Area.

Sincerely yours,

SHERMAN MILES,

Brigadier General, U. S. Army, Acting Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.

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Inclosure:

Copy of letter and Directive of President.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIO 19.11 **OF JUSTICE** U.S. DEPARTMENT

April 3, 1941.

Subject: Area Controller for the New York Area.

To: A. C. of S., G-2, First Army, Governors Island, New York.
A. C. of S., G-2, Second Corps Area, Governors Island, New York.
Chief, New York Office, Military Intelligence Division.

- 1. Attached herewith is a copy of a directive which, the War Department is informed, was approved by the President by telegram dated March 19, 1941.
- 2. A conference on this directive was held on March 25, at which were present the heads of the intelligence services of the State, War, Navy and Justice Departments and Commander Vincent Astor, U.S.N.R. At this conference it was agreed that the intelligence services of the four Departments concerned and the Area Controller for the New York Area would work under the following mutual understanding of the President's directive:
- a. The coordination exercised by the Area Controller will be concerned with conflicts or potential conflicts in the intelligence or investigational fields of the four Departments which cover either foreign information sought in or from the New York Area or subversive (sabotage or espionage) activities in that Area.
- b. The coordination exercised by the Area Controller will not be concerned with investigations of civil or criminal cases or of disciplinary action in the cases of military or naval personnel, unless such cases involve subversive (sabotage or espionage) activities in which there is a conflict of interest as between any of the four interested Departments.
- c. The "New York Area" is understood to comprise the limits of the Port of New York authority.
- d. The "reports of results" of the various intelligence and investigational activities of the four Departments concerned will be made available to any or all of the four Departments should they so desire. The general rule will be followed that in the case of any report prepared or received by one of the four Departments in which there is a doubt as to the interest of another Department, a copy or summary of the report will be furnished to the other Department. It

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is not, however, understood that copies of all reports are habitually to be made available to all four Departments, nor are the individual sources of information which are received by one Department to be communicated to other Departments except under unusual circumstances. The necessity for scrupulous care in preserving the security of information and in protecting contacts is apparent.

New York Area, the agencies of the four Departments will be guided by the following:

- making any new contacts and shall feel themselves to be free to discuss with the Controller such contacts as may already be in existence.
- (2) They will use their existing contacts without reference to the Area Controller unless and until they
 learn of some complaint on the part of the contact or of duplication of information sought of the contact, in which case
 they will immediately consult the Area Controller.
- (3) At reriodical meetings arranged by the Area Controller they will be prepared to report in writing all contacts made by them since the last periodical meeting, giving the name of the firm (not the individual) contacted, the subject or nature of the information sought, and the result of the contact.

SHERMAN MILES,
Brigadier General, U. S. Army,
Acting Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.

Inclosure: Directive of President.

Distribution: FBI

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Area Controller, New York City



CONFIDENTIAL

In order to coordinate the interested activities and to eliminate duplication of effort, it has been decided, with the concurrence of the Departments concerned, that all intelligence and investigational activities undertaken in the New York Area by the representatives of the Departments of State, War, Navy and Justice shall be coordinated through a single agency — to be known as the Area Controller.

This Area Controller for the New York Area will act as a clearinghouse for problems and will be consulted by the designated representatives of the interested Departments. He will assign priorities and responsibility for the various problems, which, it is desired, shall be duly laid before him by the representatives of the Departments. Reports of results will invariably be made available to all four Departments.

The necessity for scrupulous care in preserving the security of information and in protecting contacts is apparent.

As Area Controller for the New York Area, Commander Vincent Astor, U.S.N.R., is designated, and appropriate orders will be issued him by Naval Intelligence.

CONFIDENTIAL

Note: Foregoing directive transmitted by cover letter to General Miles, signed by Adolph Berle, Jr., Assistant Secretary of State.



WAR DEPARTMENT WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION G-2 WASHINGTON March 26, 1941

Colonel E. J. Hoover Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation Washington, D. C.

Dear Colonel Hoover:

I understood from our interesting meeting of yesterday afternoon that we were to draw up identical instructions to our agents in the New York area covering the results of our discussion. I am, accordingly, sending you a copy of a draft of instructions which I will propose to send, subject of course to your comments or recommendations and those of Captain Kirk and Commander Astor. I am sending a copy of this draft to Captain Kirk and to Commander Astor. I would be obliged if you would let me have your views in the matter at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely yours,

SHERMAN MILES

Brigadier General, U. S. Army, Acting Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2

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d. The "reports of results" of the various intelligence and investigational activities of the four Departments concerned will be made available to any or all of the four Departments should they so desire. The general rule will be followed that, in the case of any report prepared or received by one of the four Departments in which there is a doubt as to the interest of another Department, a copy or successful the report will be furnished to the other Department. It is not, however, understood that copies of all reports are to be made available to all four Departments, nor are the individual sources of the ALS information received by one Department to be communicated to other Departments except under unusual circumstances. The necessity for screpulous care in preserving the security of information and in protecting contacts is apparent."

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e. In the field of foreign information sought in the New York Area, the agencies of the feur, Pepartnents will be guided by the following:

(1) They will consult the Area Controller before making any new contacts.

(2) They will use their existing contacts without reference to the Area Controller unless and until they learn of some complaint on the part of the contact or of duplication of information sought of the contact, in which wase they will immediately consult the Area Controller.

(3) At periodical meetings arranged by the Area Centroller they will be prepared to report in writing all centects made by them since the last periodical meeting, giving the mame of the firm (not the individual) contacted, the subject or nature of the information sought, and the result of the centect.

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Brigadier General, U. S. Army, Jotine Assistant Chief of Staff, O-

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March 26, 1941.

Subject: Area Controller for the New York Area.

Tos A. C. of S., G-2, First Army.
A. C. of S., G-2, Second Army Corps.
Chief, New York Office, Military Intelligence Division.

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b. The coordination exercised by the Area Controller will not apply to investigations of civil or criminal cases or of disciplinary action in the cases of military or naval personnel, makes such cases involve subversive (sabotage or assignage) antivities.

In which there is a conflict of interest as between any of the four interested Decartemets.

e. The "New York Area" is understood to comprise the limits of Greater New York, Jersey City and Boboken only.

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March 31, 1941

PERSONAL AND CONTLOCATIAL BY SPECIAL HESSENGER

Brigadier General Sherman Miles Assistant Chief of Staff G-2, War Department Washington, D. C.

Dear General Miles:

Fashington, D. C.

I wish to acknowledge your letter of March 26, 1941, transmitting a copy of the draft of instructions which you propose to send to your agents in the New York area.

Vishes concerning the proposed program of coordination in the New York area. Following the discussion which took place in your effice last Tuesday afternoon, I am of the opinion that if any further interpretation is deemed necessary or desirable by the agencies which will operate under this agreement, it might be well to have Commander Astor attend the meeting scheduled to be held in Captain Kirk's effice on next Wednesday afternoon. Since Mr. Berle, Captain Kirk and Commander Astor were the only ones who participated in the discussions with the President concerning this directive, I believe it is highly desirable that we have the banefit of their views and observations concerning the President's intensions as they understood them. I believe that their views upon any element of the directive which requires interpretation will be of the utmost value in enabling us to completely page; out the President's wishes.

I am taking the liber to the liber to inviting Commander Ageor to	may give appropriate consideration the meeting on Wednesda	ration
The room. SECEINED-CLEO.	Sincerely yours,	
Mr. High		
Mr. Carson	John Edgar Hoover Director	1
Mr. Henden co-Captain Alan Goodrich Kirk Mr. Tracy Director, Naval Intelligence	(Gy cour letter)	1 . 1



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Mena for the Lirector To summarise, there appears to be nothing contained in this directive to which the Bureau can take legislante objection, Respectfully, Edvard A. Tana 4 tachmens

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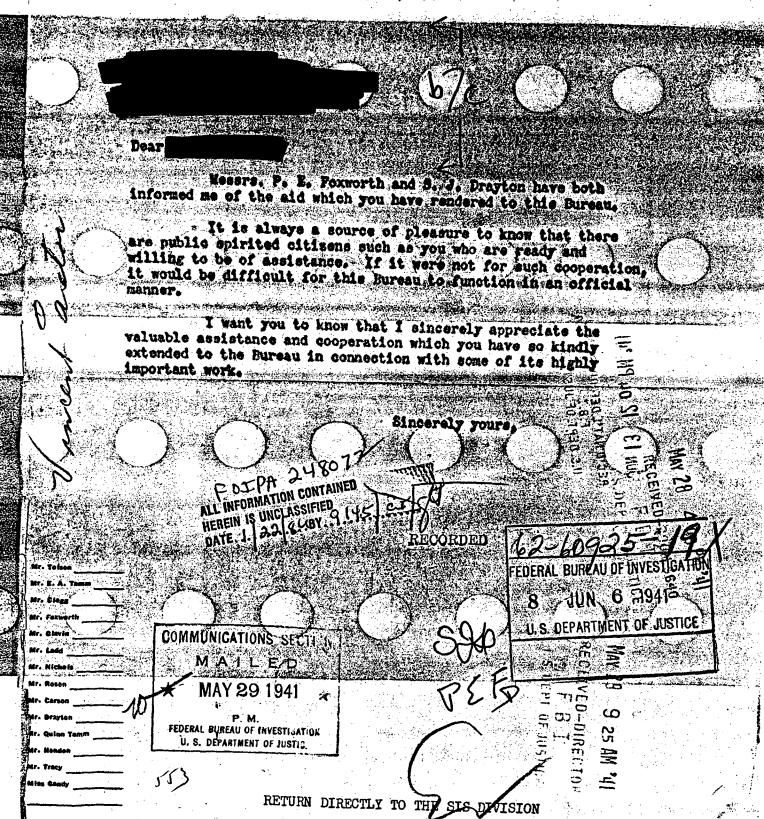
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May 28, 1941 Dear Upon my return to the city I received your note in reference to the handling of some of our work. In this connection I want you to know that I am deeply appreciative of the assistance you have continually afforded us. We realize that you are extremely busy and it was only our desire to lessen the amount of work which you have so kindly been handling for us that prompted Mr. Drayton to suggest that we do not place added burdens upon you. With kindest regards. Sincerely yours ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HENEIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

RETURN DIRECTLY TO SIS DIVISION

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June 3, 1941

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JUN 13 1341 U. S. DEPARTMENT O JUSTICE

New York, N. Y. May 17, 1941.

Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir.

MR. VINCENT ASTOR on May 13, 1941, advised that he had discussed with MR. P. E. FOXWORTH his interest in ascertaining whether there was maintained by any overnmental agency a list of coded and cabled addresses. He was anxious to find out whether MR. FOXWORTH had been able to handle this prior to his recent departure from the city.

Due to MR. FOXWORTH'S absence from Washington the writer contacted and casually asked him whether such a list had been furnished the Government. He indicated that the complete record of this material was on file with the Bureau of Registered Addresses, 50 Broad Street, New York City, and it was his understanding that this would be made immediately available to the Navy upon their taking control of

This information, without disclosing the source, was made known to MR. ASTOR. Consequently, it will be unnecessary to make a further check on this at the present time.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

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ery ruly yours,

Special Agent in Charge

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION MAY 21 1941 PARTMENT OF JUSTICE

In reply refer to No.

A8-5

SERIAL 2744-41

COMPIDENTIAL

Headquarters of the

Commandant Third Naval District Federal Office Building, 90 Church Street

New York, N. Y.

June 27,

From: To:

The Conference of Investigating Agencies, New York Area Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2

Director of Naval Intelligence

-Director of Federal Bureau of Investigation

SUBJECT:

Investigation of Crew Lists

Reference:

As a result of a further study of the mechanics needed to check the crew lists of ships engaged in foreign trade, the following is submitted.

Immediately prior to the sailing of a ship, a representative of the Shipping Commissioner is given the final crew list by the master. It is our suggestion that the pertinent portions of this list should then be forwarded with all dispatch to F.B.I., Maval Intelligence and Military Intelligence for the purpose of checking any undesirable elements in the personnel. It is believed that this check can be completed and forwarded to the Commandant of the Naval District concerned within about twenty-four hours.

The data considered pertinent consists only of the individual's name and, in addition, his "Z" number. This "Z" number is a number carried on the Continuous Discharge Book or Certificate of Identification, which is carried by each member of the crew. never changes. The Director (agenda IIC, 7/2/41) 7/2/41-Ock, CHC A case in point which perhaps indicates the present need

of such a procedure is illustrated by the following: 62-60925-Officials of the Alcoa Line brought the following to the 2-60925-2 writer's attention through Lt. Col. Sharp, M.I.D. They state that ESTIGATE almost two-thirds of the bauxite refined in the United States comes from Surinam, Dutch Guiana. These bauxite mines are located boout! sixty miles up a narrow winding channel in which there is a strong This channel would probably be blocked in the event of current. a ship grounding in consequence of sabotage. This channel is the only route of supply to the mine, as there is no overland route. The Governor of Surinam has protested on several occasions to the Alcoa Line concerning the type of crew on their ships. Officials of the company point out that with the present shortage of tonnage

Mr. Quinn Tamm.. 11941 Mr. Tracy

Mr. Clegg

Mr. Glavia

Mr. Ladd.....

Mr. Nichola

Mr. Rocen

Mr. Careon Mr. Drayton

Telephone Rector E-9100rth

Miss Gandy.....

(a) C. of I. A. letter of June 6, 1941, Serial No. 2631-41

Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2 Director of Naval Intelligence Director of Federal Bureau of Investigation

6/27/41

they are forced to pick up anything they can get, and that they are now operating approximately fifty vessels under charter, comprising vessels under American, Yugoslav, Norwegian, Panamian, Latvian, Swedish and Finnish registry. The situation was brought to a head recently when a Norwegian vessel, the Marpesia, put in about a month ago and the Governor of Surinam had a Rumanian and a Bulgarian removed.

In such a case as this where elements in a ship's crew were suspected of having subversive tendencies, the Governor of Surinam could be notified by cable and be thereby placed in a position to take appropriate action.

VINCENT ASTOR

Commander, U.S.N.R.

Page 2

Area Controller

Copies to:

M.I.D., Second Army Corps Area, New York

F.B.I., New York F.B.I., Newark

D.I.O., Third Naval District, New York

Address Communications to the Commandant Third Naval District

In reply refer to No.

A16-1/A4-3

SERIAL 2739-41

Headquarters of the Commandant Third Naval District Federal Office Building, 90 Church Street New York, N. Y.

CONFIDENTIAL

June 27.

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Mr. Carson
Mr. Drayton
Mr. Quinn Taram
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941 andon
Mr. Tracy
Nies Gandy
Mite Gand)

Mr. Tolsen..... Mr. E. A. Tomm

The Conference of Investigating Agencies,

New York Area

To:

Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2 Director of Naval Intelligence

Director of Federal Bureau of Investigation

Orders to masters of American merchant vessels in the event of a declaration of war.

At a meeting of the M.I.D., O.N.I. and F.B.I. agencies in the New York Area, the fact was brought out that masters of American sea going vessels have apparently received no orders concerning what steps they shall take while at sea in the event of a declaration of war involving the United States of America. It is the feeling of this Committee that, as the reception of orders by radio might be delayed in the event that the radio is not constantly manned, or conceivably not delivered by disloyal radio personnel, such masters should, perhaps, be given orders specifying what steps they should take in the event of hostilities in regard to darkening of ships, non-use of radio transmitters, what ports they should make for, and other steps which might include the guarding by known reliable personnel of the vital points in the ship under their command.

VINCENT ASTOR commander, U.S.N.R. Area Controller

Copy to:

Military Intelligence, Second Corps Area, N.Y.

F.B.I., New York F.B.I., Newark

District Intelligence Officer,

Third Naval

ZOERAL GUREAU

3 JUL 15 19

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LOTO GROEN

PEF:ML:WGR our analytide Commander Vincent Astor BECLASSIFY ON Area Controller Federal Office Building 90 Church Street New York, New York HEREIN IS UTOLACCIFIED FYCEPT WHELE SHOWN Dear Commander Astore OTHERWISE This will acknowledge your letter of June 27, 1941 concerning the Referred to the Dept of the atters were taken up at the Interdepartmental Intelligence Conference held in my office on July 2, 1941, and Captain Kirk advised that since orders to masters of American vessels constituted a naval administrative matter, it had been referred to the appropriate operational offices of the Havy and return Department for attention. to the FBI I am glad to advise you that Captain kirk has stated you suggestion is now receiving appropriate attention within the Mavy Department. It is desired to point out, however, that the suggestion which was made would not cover the example set forth in your letter, as obviously we are without any authority in so far as Bortegian ships are concerned. I have been asked on behalf of the Interdepartmental Intelligence Conference to express our appreciation to you for calling these suggestions to our attention. Sincerely yours. J. Edgar Hoover ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED COMMUNICATIONS SECTION MAILED 1941 P. M. Despitati FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATI U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTIC



Nederal Bureau of Investigation United States Department of Instice Washington, D. C.

July 3, 1941

PEF:ML

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. E. A. TARL

Vincent Astor telephoned and advised he was calling for the Director but he understood he was out of town and in his absence was speaking to me.

Astor said he wanted to request that I call
Donegan and reassure him that it was satisfactory to go
along on a matter Astor had spoken to him about. I asked
Astor what the matter concerned and he said he could not discuss it over the telephone but that he had previously spoken to
Donegan about it and Donegan later had informed him that he
thought Astor should speak directly to Mr. Hoover.

As I understood from Astor, he was thereafter in communication with the "Great White Chief at Hyde Park" who had asked him to request Mr. Hoover to handle the matter. Astor said that it was something of a personal interest to the President rather than an official investigation.

I told him that if possible, I would try to relay his request to the Director, who was out of town.

During the conversation, Astor stated he wanted to compliment the Bureau upon the raids which had been made over the week-end and he felt that a very good job had been done.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

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C.T. 1 22 85 CV. 9 145

Respectfully,

P. E. Foxworth.

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CH-19

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

2 JUL 11 1941

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERT

U.S. DEFA.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Glegg
Mr. Foxworth
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Laid
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Carson
Mr. Carson
Mr. Carson
Mr. Drayton
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Henden
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Harbo
Tele. Room

VINCENT ASTOR

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

RECLASSIFIED BY GIVE C

New York, July 17th

Mr. Quinn Tamm... Mr. Hendon.....

Miss Gandy

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE. 1124 35 BY 9145

Dear Edgar:

Many thanks for your letter of July 8th, which I greatly appreciate, especially in consequence of the last paragraph expressing the appreciation of the interdepartmental intelligence conferences, for such contributions as we from time to time are able to make.

The point that you make concerning the lack of authority to deal with a crew situation on a Norwegian ship in a foreign port is, of course, well taken.

The other matter which has recently given me a great deal of concern, and you and your New York office considerable trouble, I think may be drawing to a satisfactory conclusion. At all events, I am hoping for the best.

Ever yours,

VA:SW

RECORDED

Hon. J. Edgar Hoover, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Department of Justice, Washington, D. C.

CH-22

FEDERAL BURTOMORPHY STIGATION

5 JUL 24 1941

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AUSTICE

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER DIRECTOR



Hederal Bureau of Investigation United States Department of Instice Washington, D. C.

EAT: GEG

August 1, 1941

Time: 3:12 P.M.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

According to Mr. Sackett, Vincent Astor has expressed himself very unfavorably toward the Anterdepartmental Intelligence Conference. Astor has indicated to Mr. Sackett that the conferees at Washington don't exchange any real information but merely give each other the time of day as contrasted with the manner in which the New York regional conferences are conducted. Astor wonders why the Washington conference doesn't take action on some of the matters referred by him such as the America First Committee's present activity with respect to Army camps, subversive activities in Army camps, etc. Mr. Sackett stated Astor made several "gracks" during the course of the Regional Conference this morning, at the end of which he looked at Sackett and said, "Well, I hope what I have said doesn't get back to Washington because if it does, I'll probably land in jail."

Callett's by moil.

Respectfully.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

Edward A. Tamm

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EDERAL DOG 1941

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

SESTITION

CH-1318

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER DIRECTOR

> Nederal Bureau of Investigation United States Department of Justice

> > Washington, A. C.

EAT:WK

August 29, 1941

Time 1:05 PM

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

While discussing the Conference held this morning in New York with Mr. Sackett, he stated that the Darea Controller has conferred with who is in charge of Colonel Donovan's New York Office, recently with respect to different matters and the Area Controller stated definitely that there would be no con-flict in the operation of Donovan's Office with any of the existing Agencies represented at the Conference.

Respectfull:

Edward A. Tamm

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE / 122 85 BY 9.1

CH-13

RECORDED SEP U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

December 29, 1941 JER: JH MEMORANJUM FOR MR. TOLSON ur. Tanu MR. LADO I called Hiss Grace Tully at the White House in response to her previous request. She stated that the President had asked her to call me to advise that the children of Betsy Cubhing Roonevelt who have been staying at the house owned by Vincent Astor have gone out to Festbury, Long Island for the holldays. Miss Tully also stated that the President informed her that Botey Cushing Roosevelt will move from the house before long. By the way of background, Miss Tully stated that the PBI know about the checking of the employees at Astor's house, and that in this connection the President wanted to keep us adutsed of any developments there. I thanked Hise Tully for this information. Yery truly yours, FOTPA 248072 TOISOFALL INFORMATION CONTAINED John Edgar Hoaver ALL INFURNISHED GIRS Director RECORDE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION DEC 30 1941 U.S. BEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE



Hederal Bureau of Investigation United States Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

January 16, 1942

Received: 7:20 PM Transcribed: 7:35 PM

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TAMM

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNICLASSIFIED
DATE 1 22 85 BY 9 9

RE: VINCENT ASTOR

Internal Security - G

Mr. Foxworth of the New York Office telephonically advised me that he had a memorandum from an Agent to him in connection with the above-captioned matter and read as follows:

"The following information was given to Agent by

confidential contact of this Office on employed by

and was formerly employed by

It is to be noted that Agent has had frequent contact with and that although a great deal of information furnished by him has proved accurate, he is very mercurial, is very prone to accuse famous persons of being Fascists without supporting evidence and sometimes is inaccurate in his opinions of the sentiments of various individuals. It is for the above-mentioned reasons very difficult to ascertain exactly the reliability of this informant.

t.

advised that he has been told by numerous friends of Vincent Astor that Astor is both definitely pro-German and violently anti-British. could give no first-hand evidence of this but stated that numerous persons of his had heard Astor make pro-German and anti-British statements. named in particular a Princess Helen Rostigliosi, daughter of a British diplomat, who had heard the brother of Vincent Astor make certain such statements. Stated that Princess Rostigliosi lived at 28 East 70th Street, New York City, and would, in his opinion, be glad to furnish any information in her possession concerning Astor. mailed to Agent a letter which he had received from Princess Rostigliosi regarding this matter. This letter is being attached to this memorandum.

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FEDERAL BURGAU OF INVESTIGATION

13 JAN 22 1942

U. C. STRICE

sequent importance of any inquiry concerning him, Agent did not indicate to that the Bureau was interested in this information out accepted the same as it was voluntarily offered by It was thought advisable also to caution that he was to closely understand that the Bureau had instituted no inquiries concerning Vincent Astor and was merely accepting this voluntary information. A check of the indices of the New York Field Office revealed numerous file references to Vincent Astor which Agent has had no opportunity to review. This information is submitted for whatever action is deemed necessary or advisable.*

Mr. Foxworth advised that to this memorandum was attached a note on the letterhead of the Hampton House, 28 East 70th Street in a woman's handwriting reading as follows:

"Dear Nikki:

It is none of my business but I should like to say that on the occasion that I met Jack this summer in Newport, he appeared to be strongly anti-British and full of admiration for the Nazis. He made such remarks as that he thought it was an excellent thing for the British to be at last getting the punishment they richly deserved and that it would be quite good for them to be under Hitler. I have never met Vincent but the 'Iron Bit' (which Mr. Foxworth stated might not be right inasmuch as the handwriting was bad) is that he is the same way. I hope to see you soon.

As ever,

Ha

Mr. Foxworth stated that it is well known that Mr. Astor is very pro-British; that he has relatives in England who have large property holdings and that insofar as he knows, Mr. Astor is very friendly with them. On the other hand Mr. Foxworth pointed out that this information was given to them by an informant and therefore he felt it should be treated in the same manner in which any other information is handled; with this difference: he would like to tell Mr. Astor of the matter. I agreed with Mr. Foxworth and told him that we would pass this along to the Director and get in touch with him.

Respectfully,

d.

On Sa. D. M. Ladd

Rederal Bureau of Investigation United States Department of Justice New York, N. Y.

EFE: RJU

January 27, 1943

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED FOJPA 2480

Director, FBI

Attention: Technical Laboratory

UNKNOWN SUBJECT: Re:

ANONYMOUS COMMUNICATION ADDRESSED TO COMMANDER VINCENT ASTOR:

EXTORTION

Dear Sir:

Commander VINCENT ASTOR of the United States Navy has turned over to this office an anonymous communication, which is postmarked at Syosset, Long Island, January 4, 1943, with which was enclosed a newspaper article entitled, "ASTOR LEASES MINTON ESTATE". Further, there is written on a sheet of paper to which this article is attached, the following: "Big shot eh? We didnt get you last time - wait - Big Stiff."

While the content of this letter is not sufficient to warrant an investigation on the basis of a violation of the Extortion Statute, same is being passed on to the Bureau with the request that a check be made through the anonymous extortion letter file on the possibility that the handwriting thereon might be identified with previous anonymous communications which have been referred to the Laboratory.

Upon completion of the examination, it is suggested that the original be retained in the files of the Bureau so that same might be available in the event Commander ASTOR might receive similar communications

EX-MERECORDED (12-60925-27

IN HAL BUREAU OF INVE

Special Agent in Charge

ENCIOSURE 317 Copy and Specimens Retained in Laboratory

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COPIES DESTROYED

June 7, 1943

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Captain Vincent Astor 23 lest 26th Street Hew York, New York

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My dear Vincents

It was with a great deal of pleasure that I received word of your recent promotion to the rank of Captain and I hasten to extend to you my sincere congratulations. Knowing of the tremendous amount of energy, effort and thought you have devoted to Naval matters not only during your tour of active duty but through the many years of your service in the Reserve, I feel that this promotion is a well-deserved recognition of your ability and your capabilities.

Sincerely. J. Edgar Hoover ailed by the Director Mr. Tolson Mr. E. A. Tamm_ Mr. Clegg Mr. Coffey_ Mr. Glavin RECORDED Mr. Ladd __ Mr. Nichols Mr. Rosen Mr. Tracy_ Mr. Carson Mr. Hendon Mr. McGuire Mr. Mumford Mr. Harbo_ Mr. Quinn Tamm_ Mr. Nease __ Miss Gandy_

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